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(Broadcast for Arctic Regions)

(Text)

"The members of the winter-ice reconnaissance expedition in the western sector of the Arctic have returned to Leningrad. Comrade Uralov, hydrologist of the Arctic Institute, said in an interview with our correspondent: 'The trip began on Mar. 9 and lasted for 3 weeks. During this time we flew 21,000 kms. from Anderma Polar Station to Tiksi Bay and back including reconnaissance flights over the Barents and Kara Seas and the Laptev Sea. We radioed communiques to Leningrad on the basis of which the winter situation of the ice in the western Arctic sector has been mapped. Now all material of our observations has been sent to the Institute.'

"The collegium of the Northern Sea Route chief administration discussed the work of the administration in polar stations and the communications problem. The collegium noted that last year the workers of the stations organized the communications service satisfactorily. Technical equipment of the main Arctic radio centers has been improved; direct communications between Moscow and Providence Bay and the port of Tiksi have been established. Providence Bay is also directly connected with Dixon and Tiksi.

"Aiming at a further improvement of the communications service in the polar stations it has been decided to make the station's administration the only body responsible for the work of the communications bodies and service and for the hydrometeorological network.

"The organization of a longwave reserve communication in the area of Anderma-Arhangelsk-Moscow is envisaged."

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